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RECEIPTS

AND

EXPENDITURES

OF THE

TOWN OF WAKEFIELD,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

FEBRUARY 20, 1854.

WAKEFIELD, N. H.

PRINTED AT THE JOURNAL OFFICE, GREAT FALLS, N. H.
1854.

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Town of Wakefield

IN ACCOUNT WITH SELECTMEN FOR THE
YEAR 1853.

To paid the State Treasurer	196,70
" County Treasurer	275,53
	<u>\$472,23</u>

AMOUNT PAID THE SEVERAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

District No. 1,	John Gilman	73,79
2,	Calvin Sanborn	87,65
4,	John Davis	42,71
5,	John Farnham	47,31
6,	Phineas Wentworth	55,89
7,	Alpheus Nutter	34,21
8,	Luther C. Perry	43,37
9,	Jonathan Buzzell	42,03
10,	Phineas J. Weeks	37,31
		<u>464,27</u>
Amount paid	Sanborn B. Carter for support of Teachers' Institute	11,38

**AMOUNT PAID FOR THE SUPPORT OF PAUPERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 20, 1854.**

J. M. Haynes.

For supplies furnished Alms House

2 bbls flour	11,20
8 lbs salaratus	,51
8 lbs Souchong Tea	2,40
8 lbs tobacco	1,63
12 lbs rice	,60
6 lbs sugar	,44
6 lbs coffee	,66
14 bushels corn	9,52
1 bbl pork	20,00
50 lbs fish	1,50
	<hr/> 48,46

John W. Garvin.

For supplies delivered to Dearborn Foss

1 pail	,22
1-4 lb ground spice	,06
1-8 lb cassia	,04
1-2 oz. nutmeg	,05
2 qts. lins. oil	,56
4 1-2 lbs nails	,30
6 lbs tobacco	1,50
3 yds satinnet	2,00
3 yds Denim	,38
6 yds striped sheeting	,60
2 bush. corn	2,00
1 oz linen thread	,10
1 bbl flour	7,00
2 Chambers	,50
2 yds sheeting	,17
1 1-2 lbs tea	,53
10 yds print	1,00
1-2 doz. vest buttons	,05
2 gals. molasses	,60
1 ball wicking	,05
1 ball shoe-thread	,07
1 fine comb	,15
1-4 lb sulphur	,03
1 card hooks & eyes	,03
1-2 lb salaratus	,04
	<hr/> 18,03

Supplies delivered to E. Chapman.

12 34 gals. molasses	3,83
1 gal. oil	1,00
7 lbs nails	,44
2 3-4 lbs tea	,95
4 lbs salaratus	,32
1 Hammer	,54
10 skeins yarn	1,00
4 yds striped sheeting	,43
1 yd denim	,10
1 doz buttons	,04
1 pr knitting pins	,04
1 lb tobacco	,25
1 hat	,17
1-4 bush beans	,50
1 hoe	,58
1 C. pot	,25
2 balls twine	,16
1 file	,10
3 yds sheeting	,30
1 bed cord	,40
1 scythe	,84
3 papers garden seeds	,15
12 sqrs glass	,36
3 yds flannel	1,00
2 balls wicking	,10
1 chamber	,28
1-2 lb pepper 10c, 1 bag salt 25	,35
3 lbs batting	,36
	—14,84

Wm. Sawyer, Jr.

For supplies delivered to D. Foss

1-4 lb all-spice	,05
1-4 cassia	,12
1 oz gum alloes	,13
1 qt stone jug	,17
1 bush rye	1,00
100 lbs cod fish	5,00
1 cake brown soap	,10
2 bed-cords	,84
1-4 ground pepper	,05
1 1-4 bush corn	1,25
1-4 gross matches	,17
	—8,88

Wm. Sawyer, Jr.

Supplies delivered to E. Chapman.

1 butter tub	,34
4 skein woolen yarn	,40
1 bush basket	,34
1-4 lb salt petre	,04
1 1-2 bush T. Islands salt	1,50
7 yds white drilling	,70
2 lbs tea	,75
50 lbs P. Fish	2,00
	<hr/> 6,07

James A. Chesley.

For supplies furnished Alms House

10 3-4 lbs iron	,64
3 1-2 yds blue denim	,42
1 1-4 yds linen	,16
1 1-2 yds sheeting	,15
1-2 oz linen thread	,05
1 doz buttons	,10
1 1-2 yds silecia	,19
1 ox goad	,13
4 earthen pans	,50
1 stone jug	,25
2 bush salt	1,12
12 lbs rice	,66
8 lbs coffee	1,04
4 1-4 lbs sole leather	1,06
1 bbl flour	7,00
22 1-2 lbs fish	,79
1-2 lb tea	,19
	<hr/> 14,45

Geo. W. Copp.

For supplies furnished for support of widow Bickford

To Thomas W. Mordough for supplies	10,90
For 2 casks of lime	3,40
1 bbl flour	6,00
2 gals molasses	,66
Order on James Chesley	,50
Cash at sundry times	7,65
Thomas J. Dearborn	1,50
Geo. W. Hains for coffin &c.	5,00
7 3-4 lbs fish	,39
	<hr/> 36,00

John Tredic.	
1 bbl Super Ohio flour	8,50
Freight to Alms House	1,17
	—8,67
John E. Bickford.	
1 pr. pants	3,00
1 pilot jacket	2,00
	—5,00
C. W. Wiggins.	
1-2 bush H. grass seed	1,75
8 lbs clover seed	1,00
	—2,75
James Young, 3d.	
8 1-4 bush corn	8,25
6 cords pine wood	1,50
6 cords hard wood	4,00
	—13,75
Stephen D. Hutchins.	
190 lbs beef	12,35
Phineas J. Weeks.	
2 bush oats	1,00
Peter Cook.	
Use of bull	,50
Hiram Paul.	
For freight on goods from Dover to alms house	3,78
4 bush corn	3,76
Postage	,05
	—7,59
Satchel Weeks.	
1 beef cow	17,00
Eben Chapman.	
1 bush. corn	1,00
45 lbs beef	2,81
17 lbs lard	1,70
Sundry articles	1,28
	—6,79
Geo. L. Wentworth.	
Blacksmith work	5,13
Ham Libbey.	
1 bush rye	1,00
Benjamin Dame.	
Shoe-making and repairing	3,35

Dr. S. B. Twitchell.	
Medicine and attendance at alms house	1,00
James Tuttle.	
1-2 ton hay	7,50
17 1-2 lbs veal	,70
	—8,20
Mrs. Gilman.	
Tailoring	2,54
Amount of pauper bills added and brought forward	243,35

**AMOUNT PAID FOR REPAIRING ROADS AND
BRIDGES FOR THE YEAR ENDING
FEB. 20, 1853.**

James Mc N. Cook.	
1-2 day repairing road self and oxen	1,00
Chesley Jenness.	
Repairing bridge	,75
Peter Cook.	
3 days repairing bridge,	3,00
1-2 day repairing Ossipee bridge	,50
2 1-2 days repairing road	1,67
1 1-2 days work of oxen	1,00
	—6,17
David Brackett.	
Repairing road in district No. 8	6,50
1 guide post and setting same	,75
	—7,25
Geo. W. Copp.	
740 ft white pine bridge plank	7,40
Repairs on sundry bridges	2,50
	—9,90
John Gerry.	
Work done on road	,36
John Lang.	
Powder for blasting	,77
Sharpening drills	,50
Plank for bridge	,75
Building bridge	2,50
Hauling gravel	,50
	—5,02

Noah Kimball.		
156 ft pine bridge plank		1,56
Geo. W. Hains.		
Work done on factory bridge	,42	
do on road	,34	
	—	.76
Joseph B. Nichols.		
Repairing bridges		1,09
Rufus Junkins.		
175 ft bridge plank	1,75	
Labor	1,55	
	—	3,30
Stephen M. Willey.		
2 1-2 days work Union Village bridge	2,50	
72 ft plank	,54	
	—	3,04
Jacob Locke.		
Repairs on bridge		1,00
Sam'l B. Ames.		
Repairs on road		2,00
Geo. W. Hutchins.		
1-2 day repairing water course		,33
Simpson P. Nutter.		
1 guide post and setting same	1,00	
Hauling gravel	,75	
	—	1,75
Alfred Woodman.		
Labor done on road	3,00	
219 ft bridge plank	1,31	
Repairs on bridge	,50	
51 ft plank for same	,31	
	—	5,12
Enoch W. Plummer.		
500 ft pine bridge plank		5,00
Timothy Davis, 2 days work on Pine River bridge		2,00
Ira Hanson, building bridge and finding materials for same	2,75	
1 1-2 days labor on road	1,00	
	—	3,75
David Smith 2 1-4 days work on road	1,51	
Repairs on bridge	,75	
	—	2,26
Wm. H. Perkins, repairing bridge in dist. No. 6		1,33

Paul Wentworth, 3 days on Pine River bridge	3,00
Thomas Chapman, 50 feet plank for bridge	,50
James Young, 3d, 3 days work on Mathes' bridge	3,00
1 day labor of oxen	,75
Half day self and oxen	,67
	<u>4,42</u>
Ham Libbey, 3 days work on Mathes' bridge	3,00
Alvah Bickford, 3 days work on Mathes' bridge	3,00
John Mathes, 2760 ft. bridge timber	44,16
2525 ft. bridge plank	30,30
	<u>74,46</u>
John W. Garvin, 4 lbs nails for bridge	,25
Joshua H. Cloutman, 168 ft. oak plank	2,52
Repairing bridge	,50
4 days work on road	3,00
	<u>6,02</u>
Joseph Hutchins, one days work on road	,75
Amount of road bills added and brought forward	160,14

AMOUNT PAID ON OUTSTANDING BILLS PRIOR TO
FEB. 20th, 1853.

Adam Brown, note, and interest on same	102,00
John W. Sanborn, services as collector for 1853	16,50
James T. Furber, printing town accounts	10,90
Dearborn Foss, services as Superintendent of Town Farm for year 1853	43,00
Ezekiel Dore, care and trouble of Quinby, a town charge during a fit of insanity	7,00
John Applebee, balance of School money due dist. No. 9	38,94
Frederic Waldron, balance of School money due dist. No. 5	30,19
	<u>247,63</u>
Geo. W. Hains, collector for the year 1850.	
Abatement on Benj. Dames' tax	1,11
Thomas J. Dearborn collector for the year 1851, for the following abatements:	
Ebenezer Perkins	1,77
Amount carried forward	<u>1,77</u>

Amount brought forward,	1,77
Nathaniel Garland	1,77
John S. Hutchins	1,23
David M. Smith	1,77
Robert S. Corson	1,85
James D. Hutchins	,77
Oliver G. W. Brown	4,06
Dover & Farmington Stage Co.	2,24
	—15,46

Hiram Paul.

Expenses of Selectmen	3,85
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John W. Sanborn Collector for the year 1852.

Mark J. Allen	1,35
Frederic Abbot	1,29
John C. Bickford	1,35
Joseph Bradley	1,35
James Berry (Wake.)	1,41
James Berry (Milton)	,44
Samuel S. Davis	1,35
Alvah Day	,35
Lyman Fox	1,35
John Fellows	1,35
Dover & Farmington Stage Co.	,84
Josiah J. Hill	1,35
Luther P. Horn	1,35
James F. Horn	1,35
Joseph A. Johnson	1,72
Joseph Libbey	1,35
John Lang	,17
Asa Miller	2,18
Thomas B. Nichols	1,35
James Perkins	1,35
Daniel H. Sanborn	1,35
Samuel Sowards, Jr.	1,35
John D. Waldron	1,35
William H. Wentworth	1,35
Mark H. Wentworth	1,35
Thomas Wood	1,72
Isaac Welch	1,35
Isaac D. Watson	1,35
Geo. W. Wiggin	1,63
Benj. Young	1,35
Ezekiel Doro	,84
Timothy Cook	1,42
Amount carried forward	—41,01

Amount brought forward	41,01
William Copp	1,35
Benj. Dame	2,50
	<u>44,86</u>

Amount of outstanding bills added and brought forward \$312,91

AMOUNT PAID THE SEVERAL RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, FOR THE YEAR 1853.

Congregational Society	17,91
1st Freewill Baptist Society for the year 1849—	
50—51—52 and 53	29,85
2d do do for 1852 and 1853	11,95
3d do do do do do do	11,94
Methodist Society	17,91
	<u>89,56</u>

AMOUNT PAID FOR SERVICES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

James A. Chesley, Recording Warrant,	1,00
do Inventory	5,00
do births, deaths and marriages	,54
Aattendance at Juror meetings	1,00
Notifying Jurors,	1,00
Paying S. B. Twitchell	,45
Recording returns of roads	1,75
	<u>10,74</u>
Nathaniel Barker, services as Superintending	
School Committee	16,00
Thomas J. Dearborn, half day at office	,50
6 days taking inventory	9,00
5 days making taxes	5,00
Appointing Collector and making Collector's Book	2,00
Making Constables' bonds and appointment	1,00
Taking invoice at Town Farm, and settling with Superintendent	1,00
Amount carried forward	<u>\$18,50</u>

Amount brought forward	\$18,50
Going to Dover to purchase goods for use of Alms House	2,00
2 days to Ossipee and Wolfboro after Quimby	3,50
Procuring Bond from Sarah B. Rollins	1,00
Dividing School money and carrying same on School Book	2,00
Attending hearing and laying out Hall Road	1,00
Drawing order and leaving notices in rela- tion to Hill's Road	1,00
half day attending hearing and laying out same	,50
1 day examining roads and bridges	1,00
Attending hearing and laying out road near David Campernell's	1,00
Calling School meeting by petition in dist. and attending same	1,00
Services at sundry times	2,00
Collecting Bills	2,00
Settling Town Accounts and preparing same for publication	6,00
Making Check List and drawing Warrant	1,50
Overseeing Poor	4,00
Services as Town Treasurer	3,00
Making returns &c. on Hall Road	3,00
Do do do Hill's Road	2,00
	<hr/> 56,00
Fred. A. Copp, half day at office	,50
4 days taking inventory	6,00
5 days making taxes	5,00
Going to Ossipee after Quimby	1,50
Expenses paid out for same	,50
Horse hire for same	3,00
Half day at office	,50
1 day leaving road lists	1,50
Drawing order and copying notices in re- lation to the Hall road	3,50
Attending hearing and laying out same	1,00
Leaving notice	,50
Attending hearing and laying out Hill's Road	1,00
Copying Inventory	5,00
Amount carried forward	<hr/> 29,50

Amount brought forward	29,50
Attending hearing and laying out road near David Campernell's,	1,00
1 day examining roads and bridges	1,00
Going to Union Village in regard to bridge	,50
do do do	1,00
1 days work on Village bridge,	1,00
Expenses paid out on same	,50
Examining roads and bridges at sundry times	1,00
Settling Town accounts and preparing same for publication	6,00
Making Check List and copying warrant for annual election	1,50
	<hr/> 43,00
Jonathan Woodman, half day at office	,50
3 days taking inventory	4,50
5 days making taxes	5,00
Leaving road lists	1,00
Attending hearing and laying out Hall Road	1,00
Half day at office	,50
1 day Examining roads and bridges	1,00
1 day attending hearing and laying out Hill's road	1,00
Cash paid at John Lang's	1,00
Drawing order and copying notices on road near David Campernell's	1,00
Attending hearing and laying out same	,50
1 day examining roads and bridges	1,00
Going to Springvale after a Town Charge and conveying same to Alms House	3,00
Cash paid for Stationery	,43
Services at sundry times	1,00
Money paid out	,50
Collecting bills	1,50
5 days settling Town accounts and prepar- ing same for publication	5,00
	<hr/> 29,43
Hiram Paul, Expenses of Selectmen,	18,17
Amount of bills of Town officers' bills added and brought forward	173,34
AMOUNT PAID ON SUNDRY BILLS.	
Amasa Copp, drawing bond	1,00
Interest on 93,00 10 months	4,65
	<hr/> 5,65
John A. Chamberlain tanning calf-skin	,90

William Sawyer Jr., stationery	1,13
Postage	,30
	<hr/> 1,43
James A. Chesley, stationery	,91
Interest on \$20,00 7 1-2 months	,75
	<hr/> 1,66
Thomas J. Dearborn, 1 inventory Book and 2	
quires blank warrants	1,12
Expenses paid out	3,25
Making juror book	,75
Paper for Check Lists,	,72
	<hr/> 5,84
Joseph E. Campernell, land damage	1,00
John A. Cook.	
For revising Militia roll	2,00
James A. Chesley.	
Revising Militia roll	2,00
E. Garvin and others.	
Land damages	,80
Hiram Paul.	
Horse hire	,84
Amount of sundry bills added and brought forward	22,12
Whole amount brought forward	<hr/> \$1949,48
By received of State Treasurer	63,11
do for railroad funds for the years	
1851 and '52	51,21
do County of Carroll	56,54
do Sarah B. Rollins	10,00
do Daniel Campernell	5,75
do Joseph B. Wiggin	,50
do John Lang	1,50
do Eben Chapman	4,00
do Daniel Brackett	70,83
do Geo. L. Wentworth	2,25
do Thos. J. Dearborn	55,08
do Joseph A. Johnson	1,77
do William Sawyer, Jr.	2,56
do Charles E. Brackett	2,91
do Stephen D. Hutchins	2,50
do Hiram Paul	7,15
do James A. Chesley	7,00
do John W. Sanborn	202,16
do Isaac N. Fellows	1419,00
do Surplus Revenue Fund	28,74
	<hr/> 1994,56

RECAPITULATION.

State and County taxes	472,23
Several School Districts	464,27
For support of Paupers	243,35
Road Bills	160,14
Outstanding Bills	312,91
Several Religious Societies	89,56
Services of Town Officers	173,34
Sundry Bills	22,12
Carroll County Commissioner	11,38
	<hr/> 1949,30
Amount brought forward	1994,56
Amount paid out	1949,30
	<hr/>
Balance in Treasury	\$45,26

DR. TOWN OF WAKEFIELD FOR LIABILITIES

1854, FEB. 20

To due the several school districts.	
One year's interest on School Fund	44,25
Due the several religious societies	71,64
Due school district No. 3	38,37
Will be due Isaac N. Fellows when he settles his list of taxes for 1853	15,00
Due Eben Chapman, Sup't town farm, April 14, 1854	200,00
	<hr/> 369,26
Balance in favor of the town,	73,26
	<hr/> 442,52

BY MONEYS DUE THE TOWN OF WAKEFIELD CR.

By due from John F. Copp	2,00
James Young, 2d	3,00
Alvah Buzzell	12,00
County of Carroll	64,50
Isaac N. Fellows	313,44
Daniel Young	2,50
Town Treasurer	45,08
	<hr/> 442,52

All of which is respectfully submitted by

THOS. J. DEARBORN,	}	Selectmen of Wakefield.
FRED A. COPP,		
JONATHAN WOODMAN,		

We, the subscribers, have examined the foregoing accounts of the Selectmen of Wakefield, and find them well vouched and correctly cast.

Feb. 22, 1854.

GEORGE W. COPP, }
WARD W. KIMBALL, } Auditors.

AMOUNT PAID FOR SUPPORT OF PAUPERS FROM FEB. 20, 1853, TO FEB. 20, 1854.

Amount paid out	243,35
Services of Superintendent	200,00
Interest on the estimated value of Town	
Farm and stock	75,00
	<hr/> 518,35

Amount received Town Farm for the year ending
Feb. 20, 1854.

Received for pasturing	14,50
" produce, &c.	43,12
" Sarah B. Rollins	10,00
" County Carroll	56,54
	<hr/> 124,16

Showing the true amount for the support of the poor	394,19
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STOCK, &C., AT THE ALMS HOUSE.

Two oxen, 4 bush. apples, 2 cows, 3 bush. corn-meal, 19 cords wood, 1 shoat, 7 bush. oats, 5 doz. candles, 150 bush. potatoes, 2 1-2 bush. beans, 250 lbs pork, 3 1-2 tons of hay, 275 lbs beef, 15 lbs lard, 25 lbs butter, 180 lbs flour, 6 lbs tobacco.

PAUPERS.

MALES.	AGE.
Ezrah M. Hutchins	68
James Quimby	60
Nathaniel G. Burbank	47
FEMALES.	AGE.
Sally Hodgdon	54
Mary Wentworth	43
Mrs. Deborah Copp	80
Mrs. Lydia Varney	83
Susan Morse	52

Report

Of the Superintending School Committee of
Wakefield, for the Year 1853-'54.

The Committee to whom was intrusted the superintendence of the public schools of Wakefield, for the past year, have shared in this responsibility for a course of years, and, at every review of the schools, have become more deeply impressed with their vital importance. Teachers perform for the town a service that is indispensable—a work that is laborious and difficult. It should be performed with great fidelity. It involves precious interests.—Social, civil and religious interests, are necessarily involved in the proper education of the children and youth who compose our dis. schools. Has the duty of teachers been successfully discharged? It would, we think, be unreasonable to expect perfection in their work. Most of them, with but limited experience, sustain this responsibility only for a brief part of the year. They enter upon their duty under some embarrassments, and meet with many counteracting influences. The results of their work, as they have been witnessed in an examination of the schools, are as favorable, in the aggregate, as those of any previous year.

All the schools have been in operation a part of the year, excepting that in district No. 3.

All have not been alike successful in their operations;—but there has been no signal failure. All have accomplished something in the great cause of education.

In giving a more detailed account of each school, and the success of its teacher, as required by law, it will not be the intention of the committee to make invidious comparisons. There are often local causes and influences, operating to prevent the success of a teacher. This cannot, perhaps, be fully appreciated by the committee, or by others. The duty devolving on the committee, must, therefore, be discharged, with a reference to the state of each school when examined, and its apparent progress.

IN DISTRICT NO. 1.

The Summer Term and the Winter Term were kept by the same teacher, Miss Emily R. Wentworth. Miss Wentworth has taught in this district before, and possessed the advantage of an acquaintance with her scholars. When this school was visited at its commencement it presented a very satisfactory appearance. The teacher's work was well performed, with manifest care to give instruction in elementary principles; and the scholars were attentive and studious. It was not inspected at its close, on account of a severe storm. There is evidence that the general improvement of the school was good, during both Summer and Winter terms. A few scholars in this district are marked with irregularities in deportment for both terms.

The school house in this district should be again recommended to the attention of its citizens. The house needs repairs—the seats are not convenient—a large back-board is needed, and also other appendages.

Length of Summer term, 7 weeks; length of Winter term, 11 weeks—total, 18 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 2

—The Summer term was kept by Miss Elizabeth A. Maleham.—This school is large and most of its pupils are young. It furnishes materials to try the patience, and tax the wisdom of the teacher. She was persevering in her efforts to promote the interests of the school. There was, as usual in this school, too great irregularity in attendance; and a few scholars are marked with irregularities in deportment. When the school was examined at its close, it afforded evidence of commendable improvement, on the part of those most constant in attendance.

The Winter term was kept by Mr. G. C. Morse, a member of Dart. College. Mr. Morse was ever active in inventions, and untiring in efforts, to promote the interests of his school. His

Register bears evidence of some irregularities, which occasioned a partial interruption in the progress of the school, but his active exertions awakened a general interest in his pupils, who furnished evidence, at the closing examination, of unusual progress. A part of this school had been under the instruction of Mr. Morse during the Fall term in the Academy. Their attainments in both schools were very creditable. Ten of this number pursued the study of Latin during the Winter term, and recited out of school. This school ranks first among the schools in town. It has enjoyed the best advantages. It contains scholars who are capable of high attainments ;—but the house furnished for their accommodation is not an honor to the district. It bears marks of vandalism. It is not ventilated by the right method. Its aspect and accommodations are not such as are best adapted to awaken, in youthful minds, a love of neatness and order. This is an important part of a good education. Nothing but the united, and kind co-operation of all the parents and guardians of this district, can effectually prevent, and remove such evils.

Length of Summer term 12 weeks ; Winter term 9 1-2 weeks—total 21 1-2 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 3

—The school money has not been appropriated. This district has no house suitable for a school. Its old house stands as a venerable memento of the benefits it has conferred on past generations ; but to the children and youth, who need the privileges of a school, it is an object of cold neglect. It is hoped that the citizens of this district will soon decide, that the time has come for them to arise and build a new house, or that they will unite with other districts on their borders.

IN DISTRICT NO. 4

—The Summer term was kept by Miss B. J. Evans. This school was visited at its commencement, and was found in an encouraging state of progress. It was of very short continuance, and closed without notice.

The Winter school is now in successful operation, under the instruction of Mr. George F. Piper. Both teacher and scholars were found industrious when the school was visited, and it is hoped that there will be evidence of good results at its close.

Length of Summer term, 5 weeks ; Winter term, 6 weeks—total, 11 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 5

—The Winter school was kept by Mr. Ebenezer Garvin. Mr. Garvin has been a successful teacher in this district several times before. He kept a well-regulated school, in which good discipline was combined with a good degree of industry. This school is large, and a part of its scholars are backward; but it contains some good scholars. Two who commenced the study of grammar, and several in arithmetic are worthy to be commended for their studious habits. They made very rapid progress. It is to be regretted, that all the children and youth in this district should not enjoy the advantages of so good a school. There are, it is supposed, about 70 scholars in the district, between the ages of 4 and 21 years—but 47 is the whole number reported on the teacher's Register. Improvement in knowledge and virtue will prepare intelligent beings for greater enjoyment and usefulness in whatever state of existence they are destined to live. A proper education is adapted to preserve the human mind from the two extremes of credulity and skepticism.

This district had no Summer school. Length of Winter term, 9 1-2 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 6

—The Summer Term was kept by Miss Armine D. Paul. Miss Paul has furnished evidence, in her first experiment in teaching, that she may become a successful and useful teacher.

Her School, when visited, was thought to be under good regulations. There was too much irregularity in the attendance of scholars,—but those who were constant made good improvement.

The winter school kept by Mr. Simon M. Young, is now in operation. When visited by the Committee and the County Commissioner, it was found in a well regulated state; and will, we trust, afford evidence of good success at its close.

The school was found in a very uncomfortable state, on that cold day, for want of some improvement in the method of warming the house. A neglect to make the School-room convenient and comfortable, involves a waste of time and money, and endangers the health of scholars.

Length of Summer School, 8 weeks, do Winter 7 1-2 weeks, total, 19 1-2 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 7

—The Summer School was kept by Miss Mary D. Nutter. This School, under the care of Miss Nutter, was found in a happy and prosperous state. A commendable example of neatness and order. The evidences of improvement were very satisfactory.

The Winter Term was kept by Miss Marantha Mulloy. Miss Mulloy kept a good school.

She imparted instruction with persevering care and accuracy. The good results were manifest in the improvement of her scholars. We think the parents in this district, who have liberally furnished fuel for their school and board for their teachers, have every reason to be satisfied with the success of their schools.

Length of Summer School 15 weeks, Winter do. 7 weeks,—total 22 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 8

—The Winter School was kept by Mr. George F. Piper. This was the first school taught by this teacher. He was successful in the experiment, and gave general satisfaction. The school when visited presented encouraging indications of order and progress. The results were creditable to both teacher and scholars. The improved school house in this district is one of the best in town. The fuel for the school was furnished gratuitously.

Length of Winter term, 9 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 9

—The only school, a Winter term, was kept by Mr. D. E. D. Frost. When this school was visited there were indications of prosperity. The teacher was active in his duty, and scholars were attentive and studious. The Register of the teacher contains evidence of too great irregularity in attendance, and of some in deportment. The results at the close of this school were not witnessed. The committee made a journey for that purpose, but the school had closed sooner than was expected, and without notice. It is believed that the teacher gave general satisfaction, and that the school was useful.

Length of school, 9 weeks.

IN DISTRICT NO. 10

The Summer term was kept by Miss Mary E. Wiggin. In this school, Miss Wiggin made her first experiment in teaching. At the commencement of the school there were indications of success, both in teaching and in maintaining discipline. The school was small—very short, and closed without notice.

The Winter term was kept by Mr. James Mc N. Cook. Mr. Cook has been a successful teacher in town, during past years, and we are happy to see him again resuming this office. The school was very short, but profitable. Instruction was imparted faithfully, and discipline was maintained with success. The progress of the school was all that could be reasonably expected. The house in this district is cold, and uncomfortable in winter. It has no black-board. The seats are not convenient.

Length of Summer school, 5 weeks ; Winter school, 5 weeks
—total, 10 weeks.

The whole number of scholars in Summer schools, including six districts—159. Average attendance, 120. Whole number in Winter schools, including nine districts—290. Average attendance—224.

The schools, of which a brief survey has been taken, are essential to the best interests of the town. They have conferred, in their operations, the richest blessings ; but they need to be raised to a higher state of improvement. To give to them such an elevation as their importance demands, we need the united efforts, and sympathies of all who share in the responsibility.—Teachers have an important part of this work to perform, and need to be well qualified for their duty. We are happy to notice some manifest improvement in their methods of giving instruction, in a more careful attention to the rudiments of education, and, in some instances, in a better discipline.

But there are greater improvements that should be made. If they would meet the demands of the age, and perform their work with a greater measure of success, they must aim at higher attainments. Their qualifications are not all comprised in intellectual attainments. It is made their duty, “diligently to impress upon the minds of their pupils the principles of piety and justice, a sacred regard to truth and all other virtues, which are the ornaments and support of human society.” How can they do this successfully, unless they possess these virtues? They need to avail themselves of all the aids that are furnished for their benefit.—It is to be regretted, that so few of the teachers of our town, have secured the advantages, that may be derived from the County Institute. At the last session of the Institute, but one teacher is reported as in attendance from Wakefield. It was established for their benefit. It is hoped that our teachers will secure a share in its privileges—they may also receive important aid from a careful examination of the Annual Reports of the Board of Education. They contain much that is valuable.

But teachers do not bear the whole responsibility in this work. Committees share a part in it, and need to perform their duty with greater vigilance. There are some things too, that need to be done for the elevation of our schools, that do not come directly under the control of teachers or committees. There are evils, great embarrassments to their successful operations, that ought to be removed, and there are benefits that ought to be conferred, in which the duty of every parent, and every citizen is involved. Your committee think that a little more money might be profitably expended in the support of

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schools. They are in most of the districts, necessarily, very short. We think too, that some attention to the state of houses, in most of the districts, is greatly needed. In a few districts the houses are in a comparatively good condition, and at present, answer the purpose for which they were erected; but in most others their condition is unfavorable to the best interests of the schools. They are too small, or cold or uncomfortable, or inconvenient in the structure of the seats, and gloomy in their aspect. They have served their generation, but they are now behind the improvements of the age. Perhaps, if our school houses were made more convenient, and pleasant in their appearance, parents and citizens might be induced to visit the schools. This duty has been sadly neglected.

In only two or three district have such visits been made the past year; and in only the same number have they been made by Prudential Committees. Let parents attend to this duty, and they will soon feel a deeper interest in their schools. As they enter the room filled with interesting children and youth, under the instruction and discipline of a good teacher, their sympathies will be stirred, and they will wish to aid the teacher in his difficult work, and seek to inspire in their children a love of improvement, and a spirit of subordination.

Great irregularity in attendance has been noticed in several schools. This is an evil that needs to be prevented. Children who are allowed to be absent from school, especially in villages, too often enter the school of vice that may be found in the street.

An effectual remedy for this evil can be applied only by parents. Let parents then feel their responsibility, and by their assiduous efforts remove from the schools, evils, which ought not in justice to be charged upon the deficiencies of teachers. If our schools are to raised to the rank they are capable of maintaining, and in which they will be an honor to the town, every class of citizens must share some part in the work, that needs to be performed. There is we are assured, no other object, that makes a demand on the pecuniary resources of the town, which is more worthy of a liberal appropriation, there is none with which the interests of the whole, are so intimately and necessarily connected. There is no object of public or private interest, that may be allowed to come in competition with this. The youthful generation are soon to assume responsibilities for which they need to be prepared. They must receive that preparation in our public schools. Let us then, as citizens, as parents, and as Christians, acting in the fear of God, see too it, that our duty is faithfully performed.

NATHANIEL BARKER,

Superintending School Committee of Wakefield.